

Outline #9 Progress on the Christian Journey
(Be Who You Are)

1. Exceedingly great and precious promises

- a) 2 Peter 1:1–4
- b) What do you think Peter would have chosen as his most precious promise from God and why?
- c) Peter uses this same word “precious” in 1 Peter 1:18–19. What does this tell us about how much he valued the promises of God?
- d) What promise from God’s Word has become particularly precious to you on your Christian journey?

2. Peter’s ladder of virtues

- a) 2 Peter 1:5–7
- b) Why is the truth of 2 Peter 1:2–4 so important to remember as we diligently seek to make progress on our Christian journey?
- c) The apostle Paul starts with love when describing the fruit of the Spirit. Peter ends with love when describing growth in the Christian life. Why it is important to remember that God’s agapé love is both the foundation and goal of the Christian life?
- d) 2 Peter 1:8–11. How does our growth in grace demonstrate that our calling and election is sure?
- e) Have you ever become discouraged as you considered your progress as a Christian? How can we avoid the trap of becoming preoccupied with self? (Hebrews 12:1–3)

3. Peter’s reflection regarding his death

- a) 2 Peter 1:12–15. Why does Peter describe death as “putting off this tent”?
- b) What had Jesus revealed to Peter regarding his death? John 13:36; John 21:18–19

- c) What other truths had Jesus revealed to Peter regarding what happens when we die?
 - i) John 11:11–14
 - ii) John 5:28–29
- d) How would you respond to those who interpret this passage in 2 Peter 1 to promote the idea of an immortal soul and a continued existence apart from the body? (Genesis 2:7; 1 Timothy 6:13–16)

4. Facing death unafraid

- a) Peter makes no mention of any fear regarding his impending death (he would be flogged and crucified upside down). How was he able to face death unafraid?
- b) The testimony of Peter’s friends
 - i) John’s testimony 1 John 4:17–18
 - ii) Paul’s testimony 2 Timothy 1:8–12
- c) Share a testimony of someone you know who faced death unafraid because of a living faith in Jesus.

